



NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

KC WOMAN SEVENTH TO PLEAD GUILTY IN METH CASE

KANSAS CITY, Mo. – Todd P. Graves, United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, announced that a Kansas City, Mo., woman pleaded guilty in federal court today to charges related to a conspiracy to manufacture methamphetamine.

Kristy Hays, 33, of Kansas City, Mo., pleaded guilty before Chief U.S. District Judge Dean Whipple this afternoon to charges contained in an indictment returned by a federal grand jury on Dec. 15, 2004, in Kansas City.

By pleading guilty, **Hays** admitted that she conspired with others to manufacture five grams or more of methamphetamine between April 1, 2003, and Dec. 15, 2004.

Hays is the seventh co-defendant to plead guilty in this methamphetamine case.

On Aug. 31, 2005, **Angela K. Baker**, 29, of Independence, Mo., **Kara S. Patrick**, 23, of Raytown, Mo., and **Terra Hedger**, 30, of Belton, Mo., also pleaded guilty.

Baker pleaded guilty to conspiracy to manufacture 50 grams or more of methamphetamine between April 1, 2003, and Dec. 15, 2004. **Patrick** pleaded guilty to aiding and abetting others in the manufacture of 50 grams or more of methamphetamine on July 17, 2004. **Hedger** pleaded guilty to aiding and abetting others in the manufacture of methamphetamine on July 30, 2004.

Additionally, **Patrick P. Gruetze**, 30, **James Deterding**, 31, and **Winfred E. Taylor**, 36, all of Kansas City, Mo., pleaded guilty to conspiracy to manufacture 50 grams or more of methamphetamine between April 1, 2003, and Dec. 15, 2004. **Deterding** pleaded guilty on Aug. 30, 2005, **Gruetze** pleaded guilty on June 23, 2005, and **Taylor** pleaded guilty on June 6, 2005.

This case is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Catherine A. Connelly. It was

investigated by the Kansas City, Mo., Police Department, the Kansas City Metro Meth Task Force and the Belton, Mo., Police Department.

This news release, as well as additional information about the office of the United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, is available on-line at
www.usdoj.gov/usao/mow